THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (e) The Textile Modernisation Fund Scheme was discontinued in August, 1991. As regards Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme, it has not been extended beyond 31.3.1995. However, a proposal is under formulation to facilitate modernisation, through technological upgradation, of the textiles and jute industry. The intended objective is to improve production and productivity of the Indian Textile industry to make it more competitive, including in the export market. Details of a Technology Upgradation Fund for textiles and jute industries are being worked out.

**Export of Readymade Garments**

*51. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the value of readymade garments exported during each of the last three years;

(b) the country-wise details of the export of garments made during the above period;

(c) whether the Apparel Export Promotion Council explored markets in various countries during the last year; and

(d) if so, the names of such countries and the value of garments exported to these countries?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) The total value of readymade garments exported during each of the last three years is as follows:-

| | Value in million US Dollars |
|---|---|
| 1994-95 | 4433.83 |
| 1995-96 | 4453.31 |
| 1996-97 | 4762.10 |

(b) The country-wise exports of readymade garments to some of the major importing countries are as follows:-

| | Value in Million US Dollars | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1996-97 |
| European Union | 2042.4 | 1970.2 | 1899.9 |
| USA | 1257.9 | 1200.3 | 1352.8 |
| C.I.S. | 188.8 | 243.0 | 272.4 |
| U.A.E. | 132.9 | 144.8 | 186.4 |
| Canada | 135.7 | 160.4 | 164.5 |
| Japan | 149.3 | 153.2 | 119.9 |
| Switzerland | 106.1 | 110.5 | 101.5 |
| Australia | 57.3 | 71.2 | 90.2 |

(c) and (d) The Apparel Export Promotion Council has explored various markets by organising special export promotional events like Buyer-Seller-Meets as well as by sending exploratory delegations during the last year. The exports of garments during the last year to the countries where special export promotional activities have been organised by the Council have been as follows:-

| | Value in Million US Dollars |
|---|---|
| | 1996-97 |
| Australia | 90.2 |
| New Zealand | 21.9 |
| Brazil | 27.1 |
| Venezuela | 4.86 |
| Chile | 27.2 |
| South Africa | 32.5 |
| Japan | 119.9 |

*[English]*

**Government Borrowings**

*52. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 422 dated November 22, 1996 on the above subject and state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken by the Government to invoke provisions of articles 292 and 293 of the Indian Constitution to enable the Parliament to cap Government borrowings;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) It is proposed to circulate a 'Discussion Paper' on the subject for generating an informed debate. The feasibility and practicability of fixing a limit on borrowings by the Government of India under Article 292 of the Constitution could be considered based on the outcome of the debate.

**Coins, Currency Notes and Security Papers**

*53. SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY:

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of growing shortage of coins, currency notes of smaller denominations and security papers for sale-purchase deals and difficulties encountered by the general public on this account over the last one year;

(b) if so, whether the position has recently been reviewed;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of measures taken/proposed to be taken to overcome the problem effectively; and

(e) the details of on-going projects and status of implementation thereof and new projects proposed under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Government are aware that there is a general shortage of currency notes, coins and lower denominations of stamp papers in the country. This is due to the limited production capacity at the Note Presses/Security printing presses/mints.

(b) to (d) With a view to improving the supply of currency notes/coins and stamp papers, Government has taken various steps like (i) modernisation of existing two note-printing presses at Nashik and Dewas; (ii) setting up of two more new note-printing presses under the direct control of Reserve Bank of India (i.e. one at Mysore in Karnataka and the other at Salboni in West Bengal); (iii) modernisation of Government of India Mints at Calcutta, Hyderabad and Mumbai; (iv) complete coinisation of Re. 1, Rs. 2 and Rs. 5 and diversion of spare capacity for printing higher denomination of notes; (v) import of printed notes to the extent of 3600 million pieces (of a total face value of Rs. 1,00,000 crores) and 1000 million pieces of coins (of a total face value of Rs. 130 crores) as a one-time measure; (vi) reorganisation of production activities of India Security Press at Nashik and Security Printing Press, Hyderabad, for augmenting printing capacity of stamp papers and (vii) going in for procurement of one new Grapha machine for printing NJ stamps.

(e) Details of on-going projects are as under:

| Name of Project | Estimated cost | Expected date of completion | Annual production capacity | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Existing | After modernisation |
| | | | (in million pieces) | |
| Modernisation of Currency Note Press, Nashik. | Rs. 372.33 crores. | Dec. 1998 | 4000 | 5400 |
| Modernisation of Bank Note Press, Dewas. | Rs. 163.69 crores. | Sept. 1997 | 1875 | 2904 |
| Modernisation of mints at: | | | | |
| Calcutta | Rs. 104.56 cr | Dec. 1997 | 750 | 1000 |
| Mumbai | Rs. 114.23 cr | March 1998 | 750 | 1000 |
| Hyderabad | Rs. 130.01 cr | Dec. 1997 | 400 | 700 |
| Setting up two note printing Presses under RBI | Rs. 1500 crores | Dec. 1999 | - | 9950 |
| Reorganisation of NJ stamp printing capacity. | Nil | Dec. 1998 | - | 400 |